

Saudis not to discuss tank purchases

JEDDAH (R) — Saudi Arabia will not discuss the purchase of West German Leopard II tanks when Chancellor Helmut Kohl visits the kingdom on Oct. 9, an official Saudi spokesman said Tuesday. The spokesman, quoted by the Saudi Press Agency, said Saudi Arabia "will not discuss or raise the issue of tanks with the West German chancellor during his visit because it is a friendly visit." He was commenting on remarks in Bonn on Sunday by West German Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Alois Mertes, who said Dr. Kohl would not commit himself to the sale of German tanks during his Middle East visit. Dr. Kohl has said repeatedly he will make no decision on whether to sell advanced Leopard IIs to Saudi Arabia until after his Middle East visit.

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King receives Sudanese message

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday received a message from Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri on the current Arab situation, bilateral relations and ways of mobilising efforts for a joint Arab action. The message was delivered to the King at the Royal Court by Sudan's special envoy Mohammad Omar Yassin who arrived in Amman Monday.

Hussein visits Badia police

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, Tuesday made an inspection visit to the Badia police directorate accompanied by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and the acting director of Public Security. The King was met at the directorate headquarters by the commander and officers of the Badia police. The commander briefed the King on the duties and tasks of the directorate and the King issued his instructions in return.

Hassan receives Arab-Chilean team

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday met at the Royal Scientific Society a visiting delegation representing Arabs living in Chile. The Prince emphasised, while welcoming the team to Jordan, that the historical ties between the Arab community in Chile should always remain strong. He stressed the importance of cooperation between the community and the Arab World. Prince Hassan called for the establishment of a joint information centre and the start of a dialogue between the Arab community in Chile and Jordan to create a bridge of communication between Latin America and Jordan.

U.S. defence aide holds talks here

AMMAN (J.T.) — The U.S. deputy assistant secretary of defence for international security affairs, Edward Tixier, who arrived in Amman Sunday, Monday met with the Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, and other senior Jordanian military officials. U.S. embassy officials said Tuesday that Maj.-Gen. Tixier's visit to Jordan aims at reviewing Jordanian-U.S. military cooperation. It was not known how long his visit to Jordan would last.

Israeli patrol ambushed near Tyre

BEIRUT (R) — Guerrillas ambushed an Israeli patrol near the South Lebanese port of Tyre Tuesday, killing or wounding several Israeli soldiers, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) news agency WAFA reported. The report, datedline Beirut, said the ambush was close to the village of Abbasieh, seven kilometres northeast of Tyre, and was carried out by the joint forces — the PLO's term for both Palestinian and Lebanese leftist guerrillas.

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More soldiers desert army ranks

New snag hits efforts for Lebanon peace

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The ceasefire in Lebanon entered its eighth day Tuesday after a night of sporadic gunbattles while the army suffered more defections, and national reconciliation efforts hit a new snag when a leading opposition leader said the government should first revoke the Lebanese-Israeli troop withdrawal pact.

However, state-run Beirut Radio said that the government was pressing ahead with its plans for a conference probably to be held in Saudi Arabia on Thursday, bringing together leaders of the Lebanese warring factions.

Former President Suleiman Franjeh, one of the 11 politicians invited to the proposed talks, told a press conference in the northern town of Zgharta: "Until this (the Lebanese-Israeli troop withdrawal) agreement is cancelled, any dialogue, any talk of meeting, is out of the question in my personal opinion."

The statement appeared to reflect a sudden change of heart by Mr. Franjeh, who was Monday quoted as saying he had no objections to attending the proposed "national reconciliation conference, anytime, any place."

The conference idea is part of the Sept. 25 ceasefire agreement which ended about three weeks of fighting between the Lebanese army and Syrian-backed insurgents allied to Mr. Franjeh.

Presidential palace sources said Monday the talks could start in Saudi Arabia on Thursday but Arab diplomatic sources here said they knew of no practical preparations.

Hopes for an early dialogue have already been set back by a dispute over the new civil

administration announced by Druze leader Walid Junblatt for the Druze-held Shouf mountains.

Mr. Junblatt, whose Druze militias were the Lebanese army's main opponents in last month's fighting, is allied to Mr. Franjeh and former Prime Minister Rashid Karami in the pro-Syrian "National Salvation Front."

The front has said it wants the Lebanese-Israeli agreement at the top of the conference agenda, but Mr. Franjeh's statement was the first to come close to making its abrogation a condition for attending.

Mr. Franjeh, a Maronite Christian like all Lebanese presidents, is close to Damascus, which denounced the agreement on the grounds that it would turn Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate.

Lebanese businessman Rafiq Hariri, an associate of Saudi mediator Prince Bandar Ibn Sultan, visited Mr. Franjeh in his north Lebanon field Monday and presidential palace sources said he gave an optimistic report to the Lebanese government.

Mr. Franjeh said they concentrated on the venue for the proposed conference but he refused to elaborate.

The former president, who has a blood feud with the family of President Amin Gemayel, said he

thought the conference idea was designed to divert attention from "crimes committed in the mountains by the same party to which the ruler belongs."

Until he was elected president last year, Mr. Gemayel belonged to the right-wing Christian Phalangist Party, which was founded by his father Pierre.

Syria adds condition

Syria also appeared Tuesday to add a condition for the pull-out of its troops from Lebanon, linking it to the withdrawal of the multinational peace-keeping force in Beirut.

Culture Minister Najah Attar wrote in the pro-government newspaper Tishrin: "Syria's position is clear and irrevocable. The withdrawal of its troops is linked to the pullout of Israeli forces and forces from the four-nation peace-keeping force."

The article marked the first time Damascus has linked Syrian withdrawal to a pullout of the multinational force — made of contingents from the United States, France, Italy and Britain.

On the southern outskirts of Beirut Tuesday, a security committee grouping the army and three militias met again to stabilise the eight-day-old ceasefire.

Artillery and gun battles broke out between the army and gunmen in mainly Shi'ite Muslim parts of south Beirut Monday in the most serious violation of the ceasefire so far. But on Tuesday, only brief bursts of rifle fire were heard there.

Press reports said four people died in the clashes Monday and some identified the gunmen as radical pro-Iranian Shi'ites rather than members of the mainstream Shi'ite militia Amal, which still controls large areas in the suburbs.

Israel concerned over Syria

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister-designate Yitzhak Shamir Tuesday expressed concern to U.S. Middle East envoy Robert McFarlane over increased Syrian involvement in Lebanese affairs, a senior official here said Tuesday.

He also stressed Israel's unequivocal commitment to a May agreement reached between Israel, the Lebanese government and the United States on a complete withdrawal of all foreign forces, the senior official here said Tuesday.

Mr. McFarlane arrived here unexpectedly Monday night to brief Israeli leaders on developments in Lebanon. He returned to Beirut Tuesday morning after seeing Mr. Shamir, Defence Minister Moshe Arens and other senior government figures.

It was the first visit to Israel by Mr. McFarlane since Israel withdrew its troops to southern Lebanon last month, precipitating fierce fighting between rival Lebanese factions.

Mr. Shamir told Mr. McFarlane that Israel was unhappy about Syria's role there because it felt Syria eventually would use Palestinian forces in Lebanon to attack Israel.

At the United Nations, Israel said Monday it would never agree to the use of Lebanese territory again as a base for attacks against it.

Israeli U.N. representative Yehuda Blum told the General Assembly: "Israel welcomes the fact that a ceasefire has been declared in Lebanon and hopes that the cessation of hostilities will hold up, leading to true reconciliation, free of outside inter干tions and dictates."

Mr. Blum echoed earlier remarks by Israeli leaders that "any realistic and equitable solution will have to take into account the basic fact that on the territory of the former Palestine mandate two national states have now been in existence for over three decades. I refer of course, to the Kingdom of Jordan and the state of Israel."

Another six members of the coalition have demanded that Mr. Shamir put off the confidence vote until next week, urging him to anew to form a national unity government with the opposition Labor Party.

The loss of 10 votes would have reduced Mr. Shamir's backing in the 120-seat chamber to 54, compared to 56 for the opposition.

National unity talks between Mr. Shamir and Labour Party leader Shimon Peres collapsed last week and both sides declared the gap between them was too wide on key policy issues.

The six coalition rebels say Israel's grave economic and foreign policy problems require a wide-based government embracing the two major parties.

On Tuesday, he conferred with members of the ultra-orthodox Agudat Israel party seeking additional assurance that a Shamir cabinet would enact religious legislation it supports.

"We intend to try again to renew talks with Shamir and the Labour Party. But if it turns out there is no possibility of success we will not delay the formation of a government any longer," he said.

The four-man parliamentary faction Monday raised new demands and threatened to bring about an early general election if they were not met.

"What interests does the United States have in the Persian Gulf that it should be allowed to have a say and declare its presence

Shamir postpones forming new coalition government

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Prime Minister-designate Yitzhak Shamir, pressured by members of his troubled right-wing coalition, awoke to form a national unity government with the opposition Labor Party.

Coalition sources said the vote of confidence would now not take place until next Monday at the earliest. But Mr. Shamir still appeared almost certain to succeed Menachem Begin as Israel's next prime minister.

On Tuesday, he conferred with members of the ultra-orthodox Agudat Israel party seeking additional assurance that a Shamir cabinet would enact religious legislation it supports.

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"What interests does the United States have in the Persian Gulf that it should be allowed to have a say and declare its presence



Prince Talal Ibn Abdul Aziz, who concluded a two-day visit to Jordan Tuesday, is being seen off at the airport by senior officials (Petra photo)

Prince Talal leaves after two-day visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Prince Talal Ibn Abdul Aziz, president of the Queen Alia International Airport by Royal Court Minister Amer Khannash and a number of senior Jordanian officials.

Prince Hassan Monday received Prince Talal at the Royal Court and later in the evening the Saudi prince was the guest of honour at a dinner hosted by Prince Hassan. The dinner was attended by a number of senior Jordanian officials.

Arafat urges Arabs to avert PLO-Syria clash

BEIRUT (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, accusing Syrian troops of besieging Palestinian refugee camps in north Lebanon, Tuesday called on Arab leaders to "avert a Syrian-Palestinian confrontation."

Mr. Arafat sent messages to Arab heads of state, telling them that Syrian troops were massing around the camps near the northern Lebanese port of Tripoli, the official Palestinian news agency WAFA, said.

Mr. Arafat, chief of the Fateh guerrilla group and the overall Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), has been living in or around the camps since last month. Most of his remaining guerrilla supporters are there.

Syrian troops control north Lebanon but have stayed out of Tripoli city centre and the Palestinian refugee camps.

Mr. Arafat's call to Arab leaders reinforced Monday's strong warning by his military deputy Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad).

Reporters at the centre saw only 10 Fateh guerrillas, who said they had joined the rebels. The 10 said the remaining 130 men were off duty.

Iran warns against U.S. role in Gulf

TEHRAN (R) — Iranian President Ali Khamenei said Tuesday Iran would not allow any outside power, including the United States, to interfere in the Gulf, even if other states in the region welcomed the intervention.

The United States has said it will act if necessary to keep open vital tanker routes if the Iran-Iraq war leads to attack on shipping.

Shultz-Arab talks

At the United Nations-U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz Monday met two Arab officials to discuss Iran's threat to restrict Gulf shipping if Arab states allowed vessels carrying arms for Iraq to use their ports.

State Department spokesman John Hughes said after the meeting: "The prospect of the Gulf being closed is something that concerns the United States very gravely."

He said Mr. Shultz discussed the Iranian threat with Yousef Al Alawi, secretary of state for foreign affairs of Oman and the Algerian foreign minister, Ahmed Taleb Ibrahim.

Mr. Khamenei told a parade of army cadets Tuesday: "We shall not allow any country or power, be it the United States or its allies, to intervene in the affairs of the Persian Gulf despite the countries of the region requesting it."

"What interest does the United States have in the Persian Gulf that it should be allowed to have a say and declare its presence

Kuwait, Algeria discuss Gulf war

KUWAIT (R) — Algerian Prime Minister Mohammad Ben-abdellah Benabdellah discussed the Iran-Iraq war and Lebanon during talks Tuesday lasting over three hours with the emir of Kuwait. Sheikh Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, official sources said. Also present at the meeting, during which they agreed a solution was needed to the Gulf war, was Kuwait's Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheik Saad Al Sabah. Mr. Abdellah arrived Monday for a three-day visit and sources said Kuwait was likely to ask Algeria to renew mediation efforts to end the three-year-old war. On Lebanon, both sides agreed the country's problems should be solved through a national dialogue and not by force of arms. Official sources said Tuesday's talks also covered bilateral relations and ways to develop them.

King stresses role of information media

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday emphasised the role of information media in "the current critical stage the Arab Nation is passing through and the challenges it is facing."

King Hussein, who was speaking at a Royal Court meeting with Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh and directors of information departments, said that information services can play a "vital role in deepening the sense of national belonging among citizens and their commitment to

the society's noble values and principles."

The King urged the officials to launch "a dialogue with the public with the object of enhancing the sense of national responsibility and to focus attention on educational and cultural programmes."

After passing his directives, the King also discussed with the officials on means of developing information work.

The meeting was attended by Royal Court Chief Ahmad Al Lawzi and Court Minister Amer Khannash.

Kohl arrives today

AMMAN (J.T.) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl arrives in Amman Wednesday at the start of a three-nation tour of the Middle East.

Mr. Kohl will have talks with His Majesty King Hussein. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

Mr. Kohl will be accompanied by his wife, Minister of State in the Federal Foreign Office and German-Arab Society President Jurgen W. Vollmann. Parliament Secretary of State in the Ministry of Economic Cooperation Volker Kohler. Speaker of the Government and Secretary of State Peter Boenisch and other West German government officials.

The West German chancellor is expected to discuss the situation in the Middle East including the latest events in Lebanon. Mr. Kohl is also expected to discuss the Gulf war and exchange views about the international situation.

Reuters news agency Tuesday quoted the West German ambassador to Jordan, Dr. Hermann Munz, as saying: "We think there

Reagan outlines new arms cut proposal

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Tuesday gave his formal approval to a proposal for destroying old U.S. and Soviet long-range warheads as the superpowers add new ones to their nuclear arsenals.

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MIDDLE EAST

Tudeh Party leaders make ritual denunciation

TEHRAN (R) — Nineteen leaders of Iran's outlawed Communist Tudeh Party appeared on state television Monday night to denounce party activities over the past 40 years.

The 19, including Tudeh Secretary-General Nourreddin Kianouri, have been in prison for between four and eight months awaiting trial and several had already confessed on television to spying for the Soviet Union.

In a 90-minute programme, chaired by party central committee member Mohammed Ali Amiri, six of them confessed to a long history of attempts to promote Soviet interests in Iran, including fomenting dissent in Kurdish areas.

The Tudeh Party, founded in 1941 when Soviet forces occupied northern Iran, worked underground for most of the reign of the late Shah, but came into the open with the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

The party declared support for Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and when the first group of its leaders were arrested last February, it was the only sizeable non-religious political organisation still operating openly in Iran.

In May, after Mr. Kianouri confessed on television to spying for Moscow, Iranian authorities banned the party and arrested more of its followers. They also expelled 18 Soviet diplomats on charges of interfering in Iran's internal affairs.

The party denied support for Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and when the first group of its leaders were arrested last February, it was the only sizeable non-religious political organisation still operating openly in Iran.

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"As you see I was not executed and I am here among you now..."

the fact is that I made confessions in my previous interviews only after my full encounter with the realities of our time," he said.

Much less sensational

The statements in Monday night's programme were less startling than others broadcast in the past, which dwelt at length on active espionage by Tudeh members and said the party knew of an Iraqi plan to overthrow Iran's government in 1980.

Islamic Republic, newspaper of the dominant Islamic Republican Party, said in an editorial Tuesday the group talked about "topics which had mostly been revealed already ... the thick book of the activities and treacherous record of the Tudeh Party should not be closed so simply."

There is still no firm date for the trial of Tudeh members now in jail, including a former Iranian navy commander, Capt. Bahram Afzali.

The number of detainees was officially put in late May at more than 1,500 and further arrests have been reported since.

The armed forces' revolutionary court said in July Capt. Afzali and other military men accused of Tudeh membership would go on trial by the end of the Iranian month of Mordad on Aug. 22.

There has been no indication that this happened. Iranian authorities have said at least some of the Tudeh trials will be public.



FLOWERS FOR A CHANGE: A right-wing Falangist soldier gives flowers to a Druze refugee woman as she is about to board a bus for Beirut Sunday. Two hundred Druze women and

children, who were in Falangist areas after the heavy fighting in their region made them homeless, were Sunday returned to the Druze community.

Iran says Yugoslavia cracks down on Muslims; Belgrade denies charge

AMMAN (J.T.) — A group of revolutionary Iranian clergymen has protested against the jailing in August of Yugoslav Muslim intellectuals found guilty of activity against the unity of Yugoslavia. Reuters news agency said in a dispatch from Tehran Tuesdays.

Reuters quoted the Iranian national news agency Irna as saying the militant ulama (religious scholars) society of Iran had sent a

letter to Yugoslav leaders Monday asking them to reconsider the verdict.

A court in the Yugoslav city of Sarajevo jailed 13 Muslims for terms of six months to 15 years after the prosecution alleged the defendants had plotted to set up an Islamic state in the Yugoslav republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Yugoslav statement

Here in Amman a statement circulated by the Yugoslav embassy send the thirteen who were sentenced in Sarajevo endeavoured to disseminate information in the world on "the allegedly threatened position of the Muslims in Yugoslavia."

These endeavours met, however, with the condemnation of not only the Yugoslav media and public opinion but also with that of the Islamic world, which is acquainted with the role of Yugoslavia in international life and the relations between its nations and nationalities, the statement, written by the diplomatic editor of Tanjug, the Yugoslav news agency, said.

On the basis of the constitution of Yugoslavia, all Muslims enjoy the same rights as the other nationalities and nationalities and, from a religious point of view, there is no difference between Islam, Orthodox Christianity, and Catholicism, the statement said.

The church has been separate from the state in Yugoslavia for nearly forty years, and there can be no question of any kind of religious instruction in schools. The religious communities are free to organise religious instruction and some of them, including the Islamic religious community, have their own secondary schools and faculties," it added.

Together with the other Yugoslav nations and nationalities, the Muslims gave a major contribution both to the liberation of the country in the World War II and to the construction of the socialist society in the post-war period. Today, alongside the others in the Yugoslav society they contribute to the development of relations with the world and especially with friends from Islamic and nonaligned countries.

Therefore, the sentence passed by the Sarajevo High Court means the protection of the interests of the Yugoslav nations and nationalities and their equal position in the state."

Voting takes place on Nov. 6 to return the country to elected rule for the first time since the military seized power in September 1980 amid escalating street violence and fierce inter-party squabbling.

The generals abolished all pre-coup parties, banned hundreds of former political leaders from public life and have strictly controlled the emergence of new parties, leading to criticism at home and abroad that next month's poll will not be truly democratic.

Under new election rules, parties could only contest the poll if they had 30 founder members approved by the NSC and if they established themselves in at least

Turkish pre-election vetting completed

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's military rulers Tuesday completed their vetting of parties and people allowed to contest next month's general elections, publishing the final list of approved parliamentary candidates.

The list, printed in the government gazette, showed none of the three parties permitted to enter the poll had achieved a full list of 400 approved candidates.

Ruled out were 12 other parties which emerged after a ban on politics was lifted in April. These included two mainstream groups which appeared to have considerable public support, the Socialist Democratic Party and the conservative Right Way Party.

The next round of vetoes concerned individual parliamentary candidates hoping to win one of the 400 seats in the forthcoming parliament who were also subject to NSC approval under the new election law.

The generals again disqualified hundreds of prospective politicians, including most of the 483 independents.

But even the three approved parties, all of which take care to stress their support for the coup and subsequent military rule, had large numbers of candidates voted.

The Nationalist Democracy Party, a rightist grouping led by

half the country's 67 provinces. By vetoing hundreds of proposed founders, the NSC ensured that only three parties registered the requisite number by an Aug. 24 deadline.

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The Nationalist Democracy Party, a rightist grouping led by

retired Gen. Turgut Sunalp which is generally regarded as being the regime's favourite, suffered around 80 vetoes, leaving it with 392 candidates out of the 400 maximum.

The conservative Motherland Party, of former economy chief Turgut Ozal, widely seen as the dark horse of the elections, managed to get 388 candidates approved despite 89 vetoes.

The mildly-leftist Populist Party, led by former senior bureaucrat Necdet Calp, will have 379 candidates standing after incurring 101 vetoes.

13 guerrillas arrested

ANKARA (R) — Three gunmen were killed and 13 suspected accomplices captured in a military swoop in east-central Turkey last week against a leftist guerrilla group with strong Kurdish connections, a military communiqué said.

It said the three were "captured dead with their guns" in a series of operations launched with the help of local people near the remote city of Tunceli on Sept. 26.

UNRWA plans under way

NEW YORK (Agencies) — UNRWA's emergency programme in Lebanon is still under way and plans call for continuing emergency aid to some 178,000 Palestine refugees in Lebanon until the spring of 1984. UNRWA Commissioner-General Olaf Rydbeck said in his annual report for the 12 months ending 30 June 1983. The report was released in New York Monday.

Mr. Rydbeck commanded UNRWA employees for maintaining the agency's education, health and relief services despite the difficult and often dangerous conditions in its area of operations in the Middle East.

UNRWA committed 60 per cent of its \$182.9 million expenditure in 1982 to education and training. During the 1982-83 academic year, the agency operated 651 schools with 9,458 teachers for 336,207 pupils up to the age of 15 and 15 vocational and teacher training centres for 3,418 young people in vocational and technical courses and 1,311 in teacher training.

Eighteen percent of UNRWA's 1982 budget provided health care for refugees at 98 general health units as well as several mobile units in Lebanon.

OIC aims to discourage African ties with Israel

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A campaign to dissuade African states from establishing or renewing ties with Israel was approved in weekend talks in New York by a committee of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC), it was reported.

It also urged the United States to adhere to its earlier position that Israel's settlement policy was illegal.

The committee on Jerusalem, or Al-Quds, said in a statement that contacts, bilateral and multilateral, should be maintained with Africa "in order to point out the real aims of the Israeli settlement policy."

It said this policy involved racism against the Palestinians and collaboration with "the racist regime of South Africa," especially in military and nuclear fields.

Israel has had some success lately in relations with African states, most of which had broken off ties following the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

The committee, which met at the Plaza Hotel under the chairmanship of King Hassan of Morocco — who has been staying there while he attended the U.N. General Assembly — agreed to set up national organisations in Islamic states to collect funds to help the Palestinian struggle.

It also decided on a programme of "twinning" the capitals and other large cities of Islamic states with Jerusalem as a symbol of support for the effort to end Israeli control of the holy city.

Israel jails W. German woman for espionage

TEL AVIV (R) — A 34-year-old West German woman has been sentenced by an Israeli court to five years in jail for spying for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), a West German embassy spokesman said Tuesday.

Sonia Tailakh, from Frankfurt, was convicted last month of gathering information for the PLO on behalf of the PLO and a German woman married to an Israeli, before arriving in Israel five months ago.

She was alleged to have gathered information in Frankfurt for the guerrilla organisation on two Israelis and a German woman married to an Israeli, before arriving in Israel five months ago.

Tailakh crossed the border into Lebanon illegally and, after a brief stay in Beirut, returned to Israel where she was apprehended.

A Tel Aviv District Court held the trial behind closed doors and only Monday made some details public.

According to the charges Tailakh, married to a Palestinian in Lebanon, made contact in 1980 with the PLO group to Fatah and was trained in preparation of explosives.

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She was alleged to have gathered information in Frankfurt for the guerrilla organisation on two Israelis and a German woman married to an Israeli, before arriving in Israel five months ago.

Tailakh crossed the border into Lebanon illegally and, after a brief stay in Beirut, returned to Israel where she was apprehended.

A Tel Aviv District Court held the trial behind closed doors and only Monday made some details public.

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WORLD



The Duke of Gloucester is seen off at the airport Tuesday by Court Minister Amer Khammash and other officials (Petra photo)

Company to take over disputed trucks

AMMAN (R) — The joint Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company (JLLTC) said Tuesday that it would take over a fleet of 400 trucks from a West German truck-making and transportation company in a dispute over an agreement to transport goods to Iraq.

Eid Al Fayed, director-general of the ULTC, said the trucks, owned by Maschinenfabrik Augsburg-Nuernberg (MAN) would become the property of his firm later this month.

He said the trucks were currently lying idle at the Red Sea Port of Aqaba.

"Our two-year contract with MAN expires on October 24 and we shall take the 400 trucks if used to transport the goods," Fayed told Reuters.

"We shall not pay them a dime, unless ordered by an arbitration committee now being set up to

deal with the dispute," he said. The committee is to include two members each from MAN and JLLTC under a neutral chairman.

Fayed said MAN had failed to invest an agreed JD 2 million in garages and checkpoints along the 1,225-km Aqaba to Baghdad route and had not transported the agreed volume of goods.

A MAN spokesman in Amman would not comment, apart from saying that a company official was due here shortly to look into the matter.

Fayed said it was still possible that MAN would be allowed to carry on business under a new contract while the matter was under arbitration.

The Iraqi-Jordanian company was set up by the two governments in 1980 to transport goods to Iraq, whose own ports were blocked shortly after the Iran-Iraq war

which started in September 1980. Predicting a rise in demand which the trucking firms in the two countries could not meet, the company agreed that MAN and the Austrian truck-makers Steyr, would transport half the four million tonnes of goods annually imported by Iraq via Aqaba.

However, the volume of goods transported has been lower than anticipated because Iraqi imports have fallen below expectations because of a drop in its oil revenues.

MAN said it had lost JD 10.5 million under the agreement. Fayed attributed the losses to MAN's inexperience in the trucking business and problems with its drivers.

He said MAN's claim that it did not have enough Iraqi cargo to transport was unfounded.

Frankfurt fair to open Amman office

By Salameh Ne'matt
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A press conference was held Tuesday by Dr. Horstmar Stauber, chairman of the board of directors of the Messe Frankfurt Fair, and Mr. Shafiq Al-Tillawi, the representative of the Frankfurt fair in Jordan at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

At the conference, Dr. Stauber announced the founding of a representative office in Jordan which will be the 71st to be established by the fair.

Dr. Stauber said that Jordan was carefully selected as the seat for a permanent representative not only because Jordan and Germany have a rich tradition of

cultural and intellectual ties, but, because Jordan is the centrepiece of the Arab World's economy. Such a location is particularly important, he said, because the area has become Germany's second most important trading partner, lying behind the European Community but ahead of the U.S.

Furthermore he added, from a geopolitical point of view, Amman itself is to this part of the world, what Frankfurt is to Europe: A central point, a hub of activity and a focal point.

Dr. Stauber pointed out that trade contacts between the Frankfurt trade fair in Jordan have to be intensified now and that "this is the target of our new base in this

region."

Dr. Stauber went onto explain the role of the fair's representation in Jordan in strengthening trade relations between the two countries. He thanked Mr. Shafiq and Mr. Mohammad Tillawi, the representatives of the European Community and the "ambassadors" of the German tool-making machine industry, for being prepared to represent the fair here in Jordan, he said.

Dr. Stauber arrived in Amman Monday, and Tuesday met with Mr. Wahid Asfour, Minister of Industry and Trade, and discussed industrial and trade relations with him.

Palsy foundation to take to the streets

By Afifah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan will Thursday hold a Cerebral Palsy Day during which university students will take to the streets in an effort to raise money for the Cerebral Palsy Foundation (CPF).

On the request of the charitable foundation, has been declared that the first Thursday of every October be devoted to highlighting the suffering caused by cerebral palsy to children in Jordan.

The army headquarters donated premises and facilities in the King Hussein Medical Centre which "gave the society the chance to open its centre for treatment as quickly as possible," she said.

Dr. Baban said that this particular donation was a great aid to the newly formed society.

Asked about the cases the foundation treats, she said that the CPF is mainly concerned with physically handicapped children.

She went on to say that this particular handicap is caused by a trauma or accident to the brain "that happens at one time or another during the growth of the baby or child."

Dr. Baban explained that the trauma causes "brain damage" and as a consequence the child becomes retarded physically.

Regarding the causes of C.P., she said that in the infant the handicap may be caused by brain damage sustained during pregnancy. The pregnant mother may be suffering from a nutritional deficiency or bleeding, or it may be due to smoking, taking drugs or the results of X-rays.

She added that C.P. might happen due to premature birth, blood incompatibility, severe jaundice, difficulties experienced in labour, a lack of care in the first month of life as well as accidents in the home or on the roads.

The first symptom of C.P., she said, is delayed body movement especially in sitting, rolling, crawling, standing and walking.

She pointed out that not all C.P. children are mentally retarded: "A high percentage of them are mentally normal or are simply subnormal intelligence."

Dr. Baban stressed that C.P. is not hereditary and not infectious. "Once there is an early diagnosis," she said, "the correction of this physical handicap is easier than in later treatment."

Going back to C.P. day, Dr. Baban said that this time of the year was chosen for students to

Dr. Samira Baban

"This day aims at increasing people's awareness and understanding of cerebral palsy (C.P.); its causes, symptoms, control and prevention," CPF paediatrician Samira Baban said.

In an interview with the Jordan Times Dr. Baban said the CPF was established in 1977 "to satisfy a great demand felt by doctors being aware of the many cases in the community."

Giving a brief account of the history of the foundation, Dr. Baban said that ladies interested in this subject formed an establishing committee headed by Mrs. Latia Sharaf and in 1977 it was licenced as a charitable society.

Another important plan is to establish their own headquarters and treatment centre in addition to training therapists and the necessary staff in Jordan and abroad.

Another important plan is to

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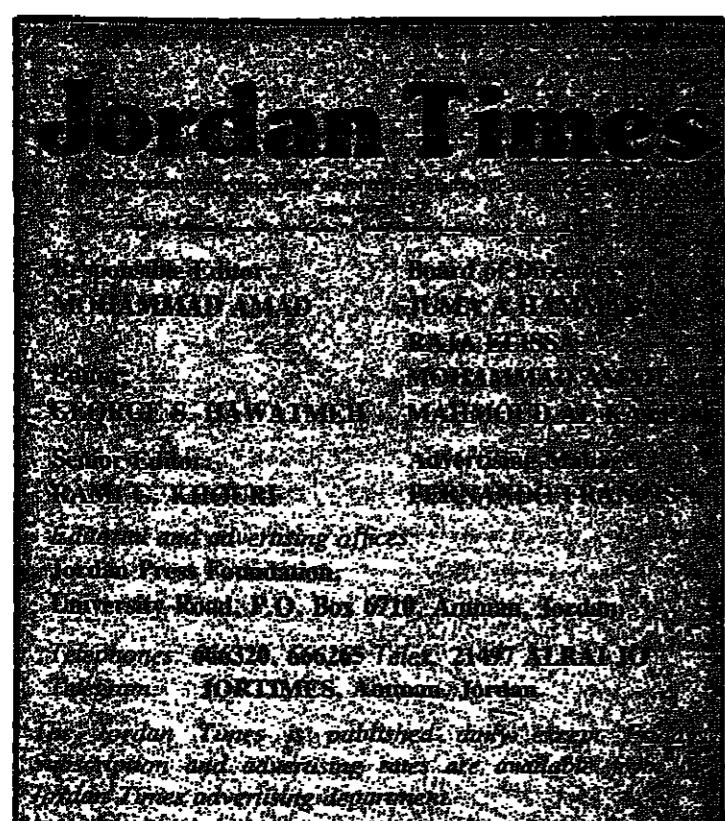
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Danish Pershing backfire

By Peter Gumbel
Reuters

COPENHAGEN — Denmark's centre-right minority government is threatened with possible collapse because of its support for North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) plans to deploy a new generation of nuclear missiles in Western Europe, government officials and diplomats say.

None of the 572 cruise and Pershing-2 missiles, due to be based from the end of this year if there is no agreement at the Geneva arms control talks, will be placed on Danish soil.

But fierce parliamentary opposition to the NATO plans has already forced the minority coalition against its will to represent a half-hearted stance in the Western alliance on missile deployment.

When parliament reconvenes early next month, leftwing groups disgruntled with the general policies of the Conservative-led government say they will try to topple it.

In theory at least, they have enough parliamentary support to take the unprecedented step of bringing down the government on a foreign policy matter.

NATO diplomats say they fear the collapse of Conservative Prime Minister Poul Schlüter's year-old government on the missile issue could send a strong political signal to the Soviet Union that the West is divided over deployment.

But they stress that Denmark's complex political structure, with nine parties in parliament and constantly shifting alliances, makes forecasting a precarious art.

Mr. Schlüter's four-party coalition commands only 66 of the parliament's 79 seats and its survival depends on support from the two other non-socialist groups — the Radical Liberals and the Progress Party.

Alarm bells rang for the government this month when the Radical Liberals, who have a long tradition of pacifism, passed a resolution to oppose missile deployment.

"We will adhere to a policy of using all methods to prevent the deployment of new nuclear weapons in Europe, even if these have domestic political consequences," the resolution stated.

The future of the government depends chiefly on what sort of resolution leftwing opposition groups put before the Folketing (parliament).

It will also depend on the willingness of the Social Democrats, the largest single party with 59 seats, to topple the coalition on a foreign policy issue, diplomats say.

In May, the anti-missile majority forced through vote opposing any deployment or preparation for basing of new missiles. It also demanded an extension of the Geneva arms talks and that French and British missiles be included.

At the time, the government survived by agreeing to inform its NATO partners of parliament's decisions without adopting them as its own policy.

Parliamentary sources say the two parties on the left of the Social Democrats, the Socialist People's Party and the left Socialist Party, are now preparing a resolution requiring the government to work actively to implement the May decision, thereby effectively forcing Mr. Schlüter to resign.

But, as one diplomat put it: "In Danish politics, even if you do not command a majority for you, you are safe while there is no majority against you."

Political commentators say a big question mark still hangs over how the essentially pro-NATO Social Democrats will behave.

Their leader, former Prime Minister Anker Joergensen, has openly displayed his doubts about the wisdom of bringing down the government over the missile question.

"We don't want to topple the government on security policy," he told reporters last week.

"We would prefer to force an election on economic policy. But if the missiles cause an election, we will not shy away from our viewpoint," he added.

The government has so far hardly mentioned the issue. Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen told a news conference on Friday with quiet confidence: "I don't think there will be any problems for the next couple of months."

Mr. Schlüter has also shown no desire to push for an early poll, even though his Conservative Party stands to gain by it.

Recent opinion polls show the Conservatives have boosted their popularity and may almost double their present 26 seats if there is an election now.

This is despite pushing through a tough austerity programme, aimed at improving the country's debt-ridden economy, which has hit Danes in their pockets.



Iran eager to disrupt arms flow to Iraq

By Paul Eddle
Reuters

TEHRAN — Iran appears to have decided to exploit its military power in the Gulf and the vulnerability of Western oil supplies to open a new phase in its three-year-old war with Iraq.

The strategy, outlined Friday by Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Vellayati, is a combined psychological and military offensive designed to disrupt arms supplies to Iraq and put political pressure on Baghdad.

First, Mr. Vellayati told the United Nations General Assembly in New York that Iran would no longer allow ships carrying weapons for Iraq to enter the Islamic Republic.

This appeared designed to frighten Western governments into taking more actions favourable to Iran following the success of similar threats in causing the postponement of the delivery of French Super-Etendard planes to Iraq.

The warning could be expected to make Western countries redouble their pressure on Iraq not to launch any massive operation, for instance against Iranian oil exports, in an effort to win the war.

France apparently delayed delivery of the Super-Etendards after Iran warned it would close the Strait of Hormuz at the entrance to the Gulf if Iraq used the planes to disrupt Iranian oil exports.

Diplomats in Tehran said the United States, Britain, West Germany, Japan and other Western nations had put heavy pressure on France to persuade it to postpone delivery.

"Those threats turned Western foreign ministries outside out," one Western diplomat said.

Mr. Vellayati's latest warning also appeared aimed at deterring outside powers from military intervention in the Gulf, leaving Iran free to carry out its campaign against any ships with weapons for Iraq.

The United States has pledged to use force if necessary to keep Gulf sea lanes open.

"If any aggressive government dare approach us in the Gulf, we shall as a first step turn it into a big graveyard for the aggressors," Mr. Vellayati said.

Foreign diplomats in Tehran do not doubt that Iran means what it says.

Before Mr. Vellayati's speech in New York, Iran's Supreme Defense Council, which sets war policy, held a meeting attended by naval commanders.

A member of the council, parliamentary speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, said later the meeting took decisions on the protection of the security of the Gulf and worked out "some contingency plans in case some chose to indulge themselves in adventurism."

An editorial in the newspaper *Islamic Republic*, organ of the dominant Islamic Republican Party, built up elements of Mr. Vellayati's speech into a strategy for bringing the Gulf war to a quick end.

"There is no doubt that if there is control over the sources that provide deadly weapons to... Iraq and if the supply of arms to Iraq is stopped then the fire of war will be put out in a very short time," it said.

It suggested Iran's tactics should be to force any ships carrying arms for Iraq to dock in Iranian ports and unload their cargo.

This would stop arms supplies without interfering with peaceful shipping, the paper said. It also suggested that other arms supply routes to Iraq should be "made insecure".

Iran's new strategy grew from its response to reports in June that France was considering the delivery to Baghdad of five Super-Etendard fighter-bombers.

The planes carry Exocet missiles, which could be used against oil tankers or offshore oil installations.

Iran first warned in July that it would close the Gulf if the planes were used to attack Iranian oil exports.

The threat had an immediate effect. By early August, informed diplomatic sources in Tehran were reporting that Western pressure was forcing Paris to reconsider the deal.

Iran clearly is still concerned to prevent the planes from reaching Iraq. But what was originally Tehran's response to a perceived threat from the Super-Etendards has developed into a much wider strategy in the Gulf war.

Filipino R.C. Church turns politically active

By Marilyn Ondichimar
Reuters

sidency the power to decide what is necessary to maintain peace and order.

Mr. Marcos said he had nothing against "some sort of advisory council," but added: "I am against any group that tries to take power without a mandate from the people."

Cardinal Sin maintains contact with cabinet ministers and armed forces chiefs. He has been largely instrumental in persuading the authorities to reconsider the cases of people held under special presidential powers of detention.

Aware of the intensity of public feeling aroused by the assassination a month ago of opposition leader Benigno Aquino, the cardinal tried to channel emotions into constructive, non-violent action.

He issued a pastoral letter calling for special prayers at noon each day from Sept. 19 for peace and justice, and to strengthen the hearts and minds of members of the commission set up by Mr. Marcos to investigate Mr. Aquino's death.

The prayers were preceded and ended by bells rung 21 times, a figure of special significance here. It represents the imposition of martial law on Sept. 21, 1972, and the date in August when Mr. Aquino was killed.

At first, it seemed to work. "I had such high hopes," he said in statement the day after the violence. "that 'Ninoy' Aquino's dream of national reconciliation could become a beautiful reality."

But he was heartsick at what he called a frenzy of violence in which police said 10 people died and more than 140 were injured.

"There is another way to regain our lost freedom and to win back our human rights... it is the way of peace, of reconciliation, of prayer," he said.

One Western diplomat described the Philippines as "the



Ferdinand Marcos — by Luis

accounts as an alternative to what many here say is a government-influenced press.

Now Cardinal Sin plans to launch a major, independent newspaper.

"The church fills the gap between political extremes without being overtly political itself," said a Western diplomat. "If the opposition boycotts newspapers it considers biased, a church paper would fill the need for news and represent a middle or alternative way between forces gradually polarising here," he said.

Asked whether the church was still divided between conservative clergy and radicals allegedly by the authorities to have joined forces with Communist guerrillas in the countryside, the cardinal replied by telling a story of how a conservative cardinal suspected radicals were trying to obstruct him: "The Pope said to him: You have a car, and your car has a brake and an accelerator. The church needs both."

A local priest commented: "That also seems to be true of the church in the Philippines. It acts as a brake on violence and as an accelerator on the authorities to work for change."

C. America: Border tensions mounting

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuters

MEXICO CITY — While politicians continue to profess optimism over peaceful solutions, Central America's civil war foes have begun a new round of violence and bloodshed.

In the past few weeks, insurgents in both El Salvador and Nicaragua have launched major new offensives, while cross-border attacks have flared on Nicaragua's borders with Costa Rica and Honduras.

But politicians involved in attempts to silence the guns speak of agreement in principle on Central American disarmament.

"It is increasingly difficult to reconcile political statements with what is actually happening on the ground," said a seasoned Latin American diplomat. "The gap between words and deeds is wide."

How wide that gap has become was thrown into sharp focus during the latest meeting in September of the "Concordia Group" — Mexico, Colombia, Panama, Venezuela — and foreign ministers of five Central American republics.

The Concordia peace initiative is the latest of at least 20 international efforts since 1979, the year civil war erupted in El Salvador and left-wing revolutionaries took power in Nicaragua, to settle the region's complex social, economic and political problems by negotiation.

As spokesmen for the Con-

tcordia meeting in Panama City reported steady progress towards a framework for peace, insurgents staged the first air attack on Managua since the end of the Nicaraguan civil war.

In El Salvador, left-wing guerrillas marked the start of a large-scale offensive with an attack on San Miguel, the country's third-largest city. It was the biggest mortar and artillery operation of the civil war, killing at least 19 men of the U.S.-backed army and wounding 100.

As debris from the fighting was still being cleared in Managua and San Miguel, the Panama City mediators announced agreement on guidelines for lasting peace and social justice.

Implementation of the guidelines could begin within two weeks. Panamanian Foreign Minister Jose Ortega told reporters, if Central America's governments gave their formal approval and outside powers cooperated.

Mr. Ortega made his statement on Sept. 10. Two weeks later, tensions in Central America had escalated sharply.

More air raids had struck Nicaragua and heavy fighting had spread in El Salvador, where talks to try to persuade the rebels to take part in elections provisionally set for next February broke down in deadlock.

There was little visible progress on the main points of the Concordia agreement: An inventory of arms in the region, immediate steps towards disarmament and a reduction in the number of foreign military personnel.

Instead, several thousand U.S. ground troops were in Honduras. Washington's closest ally in Central America, for the biggest joint military manoeuvres held in the region.

On the border between Honduras and Nicaragua, insurgents armed and financed by the United States announced a new stage in their eight-month-old campaign against the ruling Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN).

The Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) assaulted Ocotal, a town of 40,000 people 18 kilometres south of the Honduran border, in their most ambitious operation yet.

According to an FDN commander the attack, involving 2,000 men, marked a shift to urban warfare. "Our aim from now on will be to come down from the mountains and make our presence felt in the city."

In Washington, President Reagan redefined the goal of U.S. assistance to Nicaraguan insurgents as pressuring the Sandinists into ending support for leftist guerrillas in El Salvador and revolutionary movements elsewhere in Central America.

Previously, the administration had said its involvement was aimed at stopping the flow of weapons from Nicaragua to the Salvadorean rebels, and the new statement raised fears of increased outside involvement in Central America.

An announcement that a presidential commission headed by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was to make a fact-

finding tour of six Central American countries from Oct. 9 did nothing to allay these fears.

Nicaragua accuses Washington of trying to install an anti-Sandinist government in Managua, while the United States and its allies see the region as an East-West battleground and say Nicaragua is acting as a "surrogate" for the Soviet Union and Cuba.

"We are aware of the existence of the East-West confrontation and of the impossibility of stopping it," said Foreign Minister Jose Zambrano of Venezuela, one of the four Contadora countries.

"But there are grounds to be optimistic about the possibility of satisfactory and permanent solutions," he added.

Neither Mr. Zambrano nor any of his colleagues has spelt out the grounds for optimism and the United States is clearly in no mood to withdraw its forces from Central America.

"The presence of (U.S.) armed forces in Central America guarantees the democratic values of the peoples of the region and contributes to the independence and freedom of those nations," U.S. Under-Secretary of Defence Richard Stilwell said during a recent visit to Mexico.

But in Nicaragua's view, U.S. backing for the conservative forces is a threat to the Sandinists and must be countered by increased military preparedness.

"It's a vicious circle," said a European envoy. "Neither side trusts the other; everybody fears each other. Peace is not just around the corner."

Saw Al Shaab: An explosive charge

WE WOULD like to believe that Junblatt was simply making political manoeuvres when he announced the formation of a civilian administration in the Shouf mountains. We would like to think that he wanted it as a tool to use in the coming negotiations at the national conciliation conference. But in fact he is copying the examples of the Maronites and Sa'd Haddad who already have their own autonomous administrations and private armies. The dangerous thing about Junblatt's announcement is its timing. He announced his plans when everybody else was gearing up for the national conciliation conference. We had expected Junblatt to come forward with new ideas that serve Lebanon's national unity, not to give tacit approval to the Falangists' separatist moves or support ideas like those of Sa'd Haddad in southern Lebanon. Junblatt's plans concurate secessionist actions in Lebanon and encourage other factions to follow suit. They are an explosive charge ready to go off and trigger a new round of civil war.

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Boycott released by Yorkshire

LEEDS, England (R) — Geoff Boycott was released by Yorkshire Monday night — after 21 years with the English County Cricket Club.

A meeting of the club's general committee decided not to renew the contract of the controversial 42-year-old former England opener.

Wicket keeper David Birstow was appointed captain in place of ex-test player Ray Illingworth who continues as manager but will only play in an emergency.

Yorkshire committee chairman Ronnie Burnet, whose recommendations were adopted by a substantial majority, said: "We feel the time has come to make major decisions. After finishing bottom of the County Championship last season we can go no lower."

The rancour and controversies

of recent years must end. We must look to the future and give our youngsters the chance to see what they can do."

Burnet, who said the decision was being "communicated" to Boycott, currently in South Africa, added: "The game is about 11 men not one. It wasn't a witch hunt, it was just felt it was time for a change."

The committee's decision followed the latest in a series of disputes between Boycott and Illingworth on August 19 when the batsman was reprimanded for slow scoring while making a century in a County Championship match against Gloucestershire.

Boycott, the scorer of 139 first class centuries, has seldom been out of the headlines since he made his county debut in 1962.

He succeeded Brian Close as captain in 1971 but lost the post in

controversial manner seven years later when the county was forced to call an extraordinary meeting after a group of members called for his reinstatement.

Three years later Boycott was dropped by Illingworth for a Sunday League game, and, after expressing his displeasure at the incident, he was suspended for the rest of the season.

His 108-match England career came to an end in 1982 when he was one of 15 players banned from test cricket for three years for joining the rebel tour to South Africa.

Although Yorkshire finished bottom of the County Championship for the first time in their 120-year history, Boycott, who has made 44,210 runs in his career, enjoyed a successful season, scoring seven centuries in his 1,941 runs.

W. Germany faces Austria in crucial tie

Gerd Mueller testimonial — have left the West Germans far from confident.

Derwall says he needs two men like the hard-working Uli Stielike in his squad. But he was left without even one when the Real Madrid Libero cried off because of a leg injury.

Stielike's replacement is likely to be the uncapped but experienced Bayern sweeper Klaus Augenthaler.

Derwall has left out erratic midfielder Hansi Mueller of Internazionale and is also expected to drop winger Pierre Littbarski, who has rarely found his World Cup form.

The four-man midfield will be led by Barcelona's brilliant but inconsistent Bernd Schuster.

The game should help to wipe away the memory of the disastrous 1-0 West German victory over Austria in Spain where the teams were content to play out time knowing the scoreline guaranteed them places in the second phase of the World Cup.

This time Austria, whose chances of reaching France took a knock when they lost 3-1 to Northern Ireland in Belfast last month, cannot be content even with a draw.

Though they lead Group Six with nine points from six games, the West Germans are four points behind with two matches in hand and play all their remaining fixtures at home. The Irish, also with nine points from six games, are poised to profit from any slip-ups.

Austrian trainer Erich Hof is hoping veteran striker Hans Krankl, rediscovered his scoring touch. Krankl now 31, has gone through a barren spell since returning to Austria from Barcelona but grabbed his first goal of the season last weekend.

Hof has named four exiles — Torino striker Walter Schachner, midfielder Felix Gasselich of Ajax Amsterdam and two defenders with West German clubs, Bruno Pezzy and Bernd Krauss.

West German-born Krauss may have some difficulty knowing which side he is on. He started with Bundesliga club Borussia Dortmund before moving to Vienna six years ago, later taking Austrian nationality.

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ECONOMY

W. German jobless rate falls slightly

NUREMBERG, West Germany (R) — Unemployment in West Germany fell by 35,000 to 2.13 million last month, the first downturn in the underlying jobless trend since early 1980, the Federal Labour Office said Tuesday.

The office said 8.6 per cent of the workforce was out of work in September, compared with 8.9 per cent in August.

The unemployment total adjusted for seasonal factors was 2.34 million, very slightly down on the August figure.

Labour Office President Josef Stingl told journalists that this was the first time for three-and-a-half years that the seasonally adjusted figure had not risen.

Mr. Stingl said that the general deterioration in the labour market was again less pronounced last month. But despite a government conviction that the economy is recovering better than expected, unemployment is still seen as likely to rise again.

The government expects the jobless total to reach 2.5 million this winter and average about 2.3 million next year, and the independent IFO economic research institute forecasts 2.75 million out of work by the end of next year.

Taiwan to lift import controls on 600 items

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan is expected to lift import controls on 600 products next week in an effort to improve trade relations with other countries, economic ministry officials said Tuesday.

They said vice-economics minister Mr. Wang Chou-Ming would head a ministry review of imports and was expected to lift controls on 600 items including agricultural products, minerals and petrochemical materials.

Industrial sources said the pressure to open up local markets came mainly from the United States which had a trade deficit of \$4.2 billion with Taiwan last year.

Taiwan is expected to run up a \$6 billion surplus with the United States this year and officials have called on state and private enterprises to buy more from the Americans.

The government last month lifted controls on 514 items covering agricultural, forestry and marine products, diamonds, toys and some petrochemical materials.

Taiwan has import controls on about 11,000 items, mainly to protect the domestic market and maintain healthy foreign exchange reserves.

IMF agrees to ease suspension on loans

WASHINGTON (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) executive board agreed Monday to a slight easing of its suspension on loans made with borrowed funds, monetary sources said.

The decision will mean that Portugal and a few other countries that have already completed negotiations with the international lending agency will get the money they have been counting on despite the IMF's own financial predicament.

IMF loans are funded through a combination of the agency's regular resources and money it borrows from member countries. The global debt crisis has severely depleted both types of IMF resources.

Faced with a \$4.1 billion gap between expected loan commitments and the amount of borrowed resources available this year, the IMF executive board agreed several weeks ago to suspend all loans made with the borrowed funds.

Monetary sources said Monday's decision would increase that gap to \$4.6 billion and that IMF officials would review the loan suspension at the end of November to see what, if any, policy changes should be made.

"The IMF executive board felt it should not apply its suspension decision retroactively and break faith with countries for whom negotiations are already completed," one monetary source said.

The source said the IMF would continue to negotiate with financially pressed countries not included in Monday's decision, but that no further loans involving borrowed funds would go to the executive board or get final management approval before Nov. 30.



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SULPH

WYDON

CINDIT

SILFOS

Hey! Did I ever tell you about that night in Vegas?

COULD BE ALL THAT FIGHTER EVER LICKED.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: FIFTY BOOTY LIMPID BEFORE
Answer: Such a warning sounds "pointless"—
A TIP-OFF

Oteiba says oil surplus might trigger price crash

JEDDAH (R) — United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba was quoted Tuesday as saying oil producers might face a price collapse in 1984 if world stockpiles were not reduced. In an interview with the Arabic-language newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat, published here and in London, he said overproduction by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and non-OPEC members would not help the market overcome the surplus.

If this (surplus) continues into next year, especially the second quarter of 1984, OPEC will face the same price crash it faced earlier this year," he was quoted as saying.

OPEC effectively staved off an oil price slide at a meeting in March by limiting overall production of its members to 17.5 million barrels a day at a benchmark price of \$29 a barrel, down from 34.

The newspaper said the industrialised countries had built stocks of some three billion barrels, enough for three months consumption.

Mr. Oteiba, chairman of OPEC's market monitoring committee, said the committee had

pressure on the market and eventually affect the oil pricing structure.

But he added: "Let it be clear. OPEC will never allow another price crash and hopes all countries will benefit from our previous experience."

He said OPEC was in the process of contacting non-OPEC members to explain the need for observing production ceilings and pricing.

The countries contacted and the specific nature of the requests to non-OPEC countries were not spelled out by the newspaper.

Mr. Oteiba, chairman of OPEC's market monitoring committee, said the committee had

sent letters to member states whose output had pushed OPEC's agreed production over 18 million barrels a day.

Replies from these members, which were not named, would be studied at a committee meeting in Vienna on Oct. 27. Mr. Oteiba was quoted as saying:

In Amsterdam, crude oil prices fell further on the European spot market Monday after plunging almost a dollar a barrel last week.

The current collapse struck first at the top quality, low sulphur "sweet" crudes from the North Sea and Africa.

These high-priced crudes have fallen out of favour with refiners because processing them is unprofitable now that product prices are depressed due to weak demand.

Most prices being negotiated on the free spot market Monday morning were lower than on Friday, when major crudes hit their lowest value since May.

Traders said ample supplies in the market and lack of demand from refiners were responsible for the falls.

The key North Sea Brent, was traded at \$29.50 a barrel late on Friday, 50 cents below its official price and 90 cents down from last Monday.

Trades were being discussed Monday at as low as \$29.30.

Industry analysts said the market was burdened with heavy stocks of both crude oil and pro-

cessed products while there was little sign of a recovery in demand.

Belief was growing that a repeat of last year's mild winter could clear the industry heavily overstocked.

Speculation that prices could fall further in coming months has triggered active selling in both Europe and the United States.

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These high-priced crudes have fallen out of favour with refiners because processing them is unprofitable now that product prices are depressed due to weak demand.

The weakness soon extended to "sour" oils such as Saudi Arabia's Arab Light, trading on the spot market more than 50 cents below its official \$29 level.

Traders said crude oil prices were dropping faster than prices for products such as heating oil and gasoline.

They expected the fall to stop when crude prices were low enough to attract refiners back into the market.

Commodity fund seen in jeopardy

ROME (R) — The political will to set up an international fund to stabilise world commodity prices is now in doubt, according to the assistant director general of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). Mr. Dieter Bommel

The planned \$750 million commodity fund was unlikely to start operating by next January's target date, he told a meeting on commodity problems here Monday.

The number of countries that have ratified the agreement still falls short of the minimum required.

In a clear reference to the tough free-market views of U.S. President Reagan and other Western

industrial leaders, he said progress was being stifled by philosophical opposition to international commodity agreements.

Ratification by at least 90 countries is required before a \$400 million "first window" can start to pay out money for price-support operations.

FAO officials said only 61 countries of 108 that signed the fund agreement have so far ratified their membership, while donors have so far pledged only 40 per cent of the initial cash needed.

The so-called common fund would mainly benefit developing

countries producing foods such as coffee and cocoa, and industrial raw materials such as rubber and tin.

With the world economy only just beginning to recover from recession, Mr. Bommel said prospects for many countries remained grim.

"Even with economic recovery the prices of several major tropical products on world markets, such as coffee, cocoa and bananas, are projected to remain unfavourable in real terms," the FAO official said.

It's not an empty glass! It's a very, very, very dry martini!

Government bonds recovered early falls of as much as 1/2 point as sterling steadied, and prices showed little overall change at midsession before the lower U.S. bonds opening left long dates with net falls of around 1/8 point, dealers said.

Sears Holdings featured in stores with a 6p gain at 83 1/2 after 70 much better than expected interim earnings. Unilever rose 2 1/2 to 84 5 on currency considerations and planned margarine price rises. P and O was 2p higher at 229 after touching 236, while Imperial and Grand Met extended recent gains by 4p and 6p.

Oils fell, with Shell down 6p at 592, while banks were steady. Hong Kong shares recovered part of recent sharp falls.

Gold shares rallied quite strongly on South African buying after Monday's heavy losses, and U.S. shares firmed.

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WORLD

Marcos 'understands' why Reagan put off visit

MANILA (R) — President Ferdinand Marcos feels President Reagan's decision to postpone a planned visit to the Philippines was fully understandable because of anxiety over the U.S. leader's safety felt by his wife and close aides, a presidential statement said Tuesday.

In a letter to Mr. Reagan, issued at the same time as the statement, Mr. Marcos said the president's security would have been assured but he understood Nancy Reagan's opposition to the trip following the March 1981 assassination attempt on her husband in Washington.

Mrs. Reagan was reported to have said she was worried about Mr. Reagan's safety if he had gone ahead with the Nov. 5 visit following weeks of anti-government unrest in the Philippines in which 100 people have died and scores have been injured.

The letter said Mr. Marcos looked forward to meeting Mr. Reagan at a later stage to "reinvigorate" relations between the two countries.

The White House announced Monday that Mr. Reagan's visits to the Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia had been postponed indefinitely because of the president's preoccupation with key issues in Congress. He would go ahead with scheduled trips to Japan and South Korea next month, it said.

The Philippines is shocked and disappointed that President Reagan has postponed indefinitely a planned visit to Manila, a senior foreign ministry official said.

"This is something of a shock," the official said, "because whatever the reasons are for postponing the visit, it will be interpreted in some quarters as a loss of confidence in the country."

Political opponents of Mr. Marcos said they welcomed the White House announcement.

Agapito Aquino, an opposition leader and younger brother of the

murdered former senator, said: "Naturally we are happy. We appreciate President Reagan's decision. Marcos will probably crack down on us, but we are prepared for that."

He said opposition groups would invite Mr. Reagan to visit the Philippines when the situation was quiet.

The U.S. business community's reaction to the decision was mixed. One American said the postponement would not have any effect at all.

"I don't think it would be interpreted as non-confidence in the Philippines," he said. "He (Reagan) was in a situation where he was damned if he did and damned if he didn't."

A spokesman for a coalition of 12 opposition groups known as UNIDO said he was not surprised by the decision and said UNIDO welcomed the news.

"The assassination of Aquino while in the custody of government security at Manila Airport should have shown Reagan that Marcos could not provide adequate security," he said.

Sen. Aquino was shot dead as he was led by guards from the airliner that brought him home from three years of self-imposed exile in the United States.

The death sparked weeks of anti-government rallies and riots in which 10 people were killed and scores injured, and outbreaks against the United States which has important military bases in the country.

"Reagan was clearly in a dilemma when it came to the visit planned for Nov. 5," one Western diplomat said Tuesday. "To go

ahead with the visit in the midst of widespread unrest and an opposition campaign against Marcos would have been seen by some as a political gesture of support for Marcos.

"But to call off only the Philippines part of his regional tour would have been seen as a political slap in the face for the government," he added.

The White House said President Reagan was also postponing visits to Thailand and Indonesia because of his preoccupation with key issues in Congress. He had planned to spend one night in Manila as part of a South East Asian tour.

Anti-American sentiment had been creeping into the street demonstrations some of which were held near the U.S. embassy in the heart of the city.

UNIDO had warned that the military bases, the Subic naval facility and Clark air base, would be surrounded by a hostile population if President Reagan proceeded with the visit.

U.S. officials said security in the Philippines where 10 people died in anti-Marcos demonstrations, had been considered during a White House review of trip arrangements.

Bob Sims, spokesman for the National Security Council, said President Marcos felt he could guarantee Mr. Reagan's safety but the White House would have had to review security "every day" until the president set foot in Manila.

Bases strike discussed

Meanwhile, United States ambassador Michael Armacost and Philippines Labour Minister Blas Ople met Tuesday in an effort to end an indefinite strike by about 22,000 Filipino workers at American military bases, a U.S. embassy spokesman said.

"The talks were private. All we can say is that we hope the strike



Agapito Aquino, younger brother of slain opposition leader Benigno Aquino, leads runners in Manila in a new form of protest. (A.P. wirephoto)

ends as soon as possible," the spokesman added.

The strike began Monday at six bases in the Philippines over demands for higher pay, trade union officials said.

Union President Roberto Flores said that pickets had been set up outside six facilities on the main island of Luzon, including Subic Bay naval base, home of the U.S. Seventh Fleet.

A Western naval officer said he did not expect the strike to affect the operational effectiveness of the bases unless the action continued for some weeks.

Mr. Flores said the strike was not political. It had nothing to do with President Reagan's visit to the Philippines, now postponed, or recent anti-government unrest here, he said.

A Western diplomat said the Filipino business community was ambivalent over the visit, some wanting the trip cancelled "for old-fashioned anti-American reasons" and others hoping that President Reagan's presence would pressure President Marcos to put through political and social reform.

And a special commission inv-

estigating the assassination of Sen. Aquino will demand that a government undercover agent give evidence, commission sources said Tuesday.

An armed forces statement said three days ago that Rosendo Cawigan, 44, was an undercover agent who had evidence that Sen. Aquino's alleged assassin, named as Rolando Galman, was a communist guerrilla leader.

It said Cawigan, who gave evidence against Sen Aquino in 1972 when he was charged with subversion, murder and illegal possession of firearms, was himself a former senator.

Cawigan said he had been told Sen. Aquino had vowed to kill him.

Cawigan was said to have been Sen. Aquino's security chief when the opposition leader was arrested in 1972.

The military statement said Cawigan was acting alone, and had rejected a communist guerrilla suggestion that he work as Galman's back-up in the assassination.

Kennedy makes speech to U.S. fundamentalists

LYNCHBURG, Virginia (R) — Sen. Edward Kennedy, in one of the odder events of his political career, went to a stronghold of the U.S. Protestant "Bible belt" yesterday night and preached a sermon on tolerance to followers of the right-wing fundamentalist Moral Majority.

Mr. Kennedy, a liberal Roman Catholic, was escorted onto the stage by the Rev. Jerry Falwell, founder of Moral Majority which espouses a deeply conservative brand of flag-waving Christian evangelism.

To make matters even more bizarre, Mr. Kennedy's address to an audience of ultra-conservative Baptists resulted from an error.

Mr. Kennedy somehow got a Moral Majority membership card

Walesa nominated again for Nobel Peace Prize

OSLO (R) — Lech Walesa, leader of the banned Polish Solidarity free trade union, Philip Habib, former U.S. Middle East troubleshooter and Eli Wiesel, American-Jewish author, were tipped by Norwegian papers Tuesday as possible winners of the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize to be announced Wednesday.

The Norwegian Nobel committee chose the winner of the coveted Prize last Tuesday from 79 nominees, which included 25 organisations.

Jakob Sverdrup, director of the Norwegian Nobel Institute and secretary of the committee, confirmed in an interview with Reuters that Mr. Walesa was among

this year's candidates.

Mr. Walesa was nominated for last year's prize as well.

The prize consists of a gold medal and diploma, the official insignia of the laureate, as well as the prize money which this year amounts to the record-high sum of 1.5 million Swedish crowns (\$192,000).

Among those nominated last year who have dropped from this year's list are Lord Carrington, former British foreign secretary, and Robert Mugabe, prime minister of Zimbabwe, who were nominated last year for their efforts in bringing peace to the former colony of Rhodesia, informed sources said.

He is one of four men charged with forcible confinement, duress, threatening the hostages and Swiss officials, causing bodily harm, trespass, blackmail, wilful damage and illegally residing in Switzerland.

They held 14 hostages in the embassy during an occupation from Sept. 6 to 9 last year which was ended without bloodshed by Swiss police commandos.

Another of the accused, Miroslav Plewinski, admitted most of the charges and said he was very sorry.

Polish gunman on trial says he has 'no regrets'

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — A Polish gunman who seized hostages at the Polish embassy last year told a court Tuesday he had no regrets.

"If someone loves his fatherland, he cannot regret that he did something for it," Krzysztof Waslewski told the Swiss Federal Court on the second day of his trial.

He is one of four men charged with forcible confinement, duress, threatening the hostages and Swiss officials, causing bodily harm, trespass, blackmail, wilful damage and illegally residing in Switzerland.

The group sent a letter during the occupation to Swiss authorities threatening to blow up the building with its occupants unless

One, a 69-year-old man, had refused to leave with more than 1,300 residents who fled the village by bus and boat before the lava destroyed about 90 per cent of Ako's buildings, they said.

The eruptions — the first in 21 years — sent columns of smoke and ash 9,000 metres into the sky and several streams of molten lava down the mountain's slopes.

Crops, forests and fishing facilities were also destroyed.

Residents of Ako were being accommodated in schools and other public buildings elsewhere on the island, which has a permanent population of about 4,300, the officials said.

Japanese navy and Maritime Safety Agency ships were dispatched to the island Monday night to help with relief work.

Labour purges Marxists

BRIGHTON, England (R) — The British Labour Party has thrown out five leading Marxist in an attempt to improve its public image following its disastrous electoral defeat in June.

While the status of the Marxists long a matter of dispute between Labour's feuding left and right wings, was discussed behind closed doors, the inquest over the election was performed in the full glare of publicity.

The main opposition party went into secret session to hear appeals by the five members of the editorial board of the weekly newspaper Militant against their expulsion.

Delegates trying to come to terms with Labour's worst election defeat in 65 years, upheld the decision by the party's government.

But it would not do to return any trump. If West returns a low trump, declarer will have two entries to dummy for two club finesse, which will allow the contract to succeed in a different way. West solved the problem by returning the jack of trumps!

Declarer finessed the jack of diamonds. East won the ace and applied the last nail to declarer's coffin. He exited with a diamond. Declarer was in dummy and he could take one club finesse. But he still had to give up a club to East. When East won the king, he continued with the ten of diamonds, and now the defenders were guaranteed two more tricks for a one-trick set no matter what declarer did.

It is all very well to make close doubles. But you had better have the defensive skills of 1968 World Open Pairs champions Hans Kreyns and Bob Slavenburg if you want to avoid bankruptcy as a result.

Slavenburg's double of two clubs was tactical — he wanted to drive the enemy to two hearts. But after he accomplished his mission, he and his partner had to defend brilliantly to achieve a plus,

Marc Schreuder gave evidence against his mother, who was convicted six days ago of murder and could have been sentenced to death.

At the trial Monday, Mrs. Schreuder, 45, waived a right for the jury to decide her sentence and left the decision to judge Ernest Baldwin.

The prosecution described her as a vile and treacherous woman who felt no remorse over the death of her father. The defence pointed out that she "was not the triggerman".

Arab interparliamentary groups, calling for an immediate ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war and withdrawal of all forces behind internationally recognised boundaries.

Another measure for debate is how the United Nations could play a more effective role in resolving world conflicts, especially in the field of arms control and disarmament.

Aviation team arrives

SEOUL (Agencies) — South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan said Tuesday the shooting down of a South Korean airliner by Soviet fighters should serve as a warning that the danger of a war which could obliterate mankind lurked everywhere.

Mr. Chun was speaking at the opening ceremony of the autumn conference of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in Seoul which was boycotted by the Soviet Union and its communist allies along with some non-aligned countries.

Conference sources said most of the communist nations had earlier indicated they would attend the conference but decided against it when a wave of anti-Soviet demonstrations swept South Korea after the Korean jumbo was shot down on Sept. 1.

The sources said other communist countries and non-aligned nations did not turn up after lobbying by North Korea.

As the ICAO conference began,

Swiss chief delegate Peter Hefti said: "It is not possible to forget the incident which cost the lives of 269 people on Sept. 1."

The conference also placed on

the agenda a draft resolution presented by Iraq on behalf of the

Argentina faces strike

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina faces a major political and economic crisis Tuesday with trade unions staging a 24-hour general strike to back pay demands and Central Bank President Julio Gonzalez del Solar under arrest.

Argentina's General Confederation of Labour (CGT) Monday night gave the final go-ahead for the national strike to demand an increase of \$60 pesos (\$61) on all monthly salaries and a 17 per cent rise in wages for September to keep pace with Argentina's 335 per cent annual inflation rate.

President spokesman Eduardo Maschwitz meanwhile confirmed the arrest of Gonzalez del Solar on the orders of a judge who is investigating alleged irregularities in a contract to reschedule \$220 million of foreign debts owed by the national airline Aerolineas Argentinas.

Mr. Maschwitz said Mr. del Solar was being held by police and the government would study and follow the situation in order to take such action as best suits the supreme interests of the nation.

Court sources said Federal Judge Frederico Pinto Kramer ordered the arrest in order to bring charges against Gonzalez del Solar in connection with the signing of the Aerolineas Argentinas agreement on Sept. 16. The action paralysed negotiations on refinancing Argentina's \$39 billion foreign debt.

The judge subsequently suspended an article of the contract which gave U.S. courts jurisdiction to resolve any dispute arising from the airline agreement, on the grounds that this interfered with Argentine sovereignty.

As a result of Judge Pinto Kramer's action, foreign banks have delayed payment of \$500 million in fresh credits to Argentina, causing a squeeze on the country's dwindling foreign currency reserves.

COLUMN 8

Sydney burglars have no luck

SYDNEY (R) — A gang of bungling burglars seem to have struck — and failed — again Tuesday in Sydney, police said. Burglars who broke into a post office saw their gelignite blast a table apart, smash windows and tear the handle off a safe. They fled empty handed. Last week a gang blew up a post office instead of its safe, but this time the building suffered no structural damage, a police spokesman said.

"At this stage the gang could well be the same. We are still looking for last week's raiders," he said.

Pauline gives shock after shock

LONDON (R) — It's a shocking affair being near Pauline Shaw, a walking power pack of static electricity who baffles doctors. There is frequently a flash and a bang when Pauline, a 41-year-old mother of three, touches something.

When she does the laundry, the electric iron has a habit of blowing up. And she's killed nine fish in the family's heated aquarium. Her job in a shop is at risk as the electronic till goes berserk when she rings up a bill. Husband John says she crackles with static in bed. Scientists have now recommended that she takes several showers a day and wear a piece of wire round her ankle, so she can be a walking "earth" and discharge electricity into the ground. "It makes me feel like a freak," said Pauline at her home near Manchester, north England.

Wayward mortar bomb kills 2

MUENSINGEN, West Germany (R) — A mortar shell fired in the wrong direction during a West German army exercise killed two officers and injured 20 other invited spectators, an army spokesman said. Fifteen of the injured were seriously hurt, including three civilians, one of them a parliamentarian of the Christian Social Union. Fritz Wiemann.

The spokesman said the exercise was watched from army trucks by 800 spectators, invited by the host unit. He said the programme called for a mortar-fired smoke shell to land about 1,500 metres in front of the guests. Instead, for unknown reasons, a live mortar shell was fired and exploded about five metres from a truckload of spectators.

Banker warned of spy before death

MOSCOW (R) — A British banker who fell to his death from a Moscow apartment block in June said there was a spy in the British embassy two days before he died. A British businessman has said Dennis Skinner, who worked for the London-based Midland Bank, warned of the spy in a handwritten note passed to Valerie Cane, wife of British businessman William Cane. Mr. Cane told Reuters he took Skinner's note to the embassy after reading that the banker feared for his life. After talks with embassy personnel, Mr. Skinner stayed with a British diplomat for one night but later returned to his own apartment, embassy minister David Raftord told Reuters. The